

Claims

1. An adjustable mounting assembly for mounting a support stay of a clamp arm to a dipper arm of a back acer, the mounting assembly comprising:

5

an elongated mounting member defining a longitudinally extending central axis for mounting on the dipper arm with the central axis of the mounting member extending substantially parallel to the dipper arm, and

10

an anchor member for anchoring the support stay to the mounting member, the anchor member being selectively engageable with the mounting member at at least two anchor locations spaced apart longitudinally along the central axis of the mounting member for respectively supporting the clamp arm in at least one operative orientation with the clamp arm extending outwardly from the dipper arm for co-operating with a bucket mounted at the distal end of the dipper arm for clamping an article therebetween, and an inoperative orientation with the clamp arm and the support stay extending substantially parallel to the dipper arm.

15

20 2. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the anchor member is slideable longitudinally along the mounting member between the respective anchor locations.

25 3. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a retaining means is provided for retaining the anchor member in slideable engagement with the mounting member.

4. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a securing means is provided for securing the anchor member at the respective anchor locations.

30

5. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 4 wherein the securing means comprises a securing pin which is slideable through the anchor member and engageable with a corresponding receiver in the mounting member.

5 6. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 5 wherein a guide bore, through which the securing pin is slideably carried, extends through the anchor member and is slideable between a disengaged position disengaged from the receiver and an engaged position for engaging the receiver.

10 7. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 6 wherein a follower member extends transversely from the securing pin and is co-operable with a camming surface on the anchor member for operating the securing pin between the engaged and the disengaged positions.

15 8. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 5 wherein the securing pin releasably retains the securing pin in the disengaged position.

9. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 1 wherein the anchor member is selectively engageable with the mounting member at a plurality of spaced 20 apart anchor locations spaced apart longitudinally along the mounting member for supporting the clamp arm at a plurality of respective operative orientations extending outwardly from the dipper at respective different angles to the dipper arm.

10. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 1 wherein 25 the assembly further comprises a securing catch for securing the clamp arm in an inoperative orientation.

11. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 10 wherein the securing catch mechanism comprises at least two parts one part on the mounting assembly the 30 other on the clamp arm or the support stay.

12. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 10 wherein the securing catch mechanism comprises at least two catch mechanisms.

13. An adjustable mounting assembly according to claim 10 wherein the securing 5 catch mechanism automatically engages when the clamp arm is in a desired inoperative position.

14. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 10 wherein said securing 10 catch comprises two or more catch mechanisms each individually restricting movement of the clamp arm from an inoperative position.

15. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the adjustable mounting assembly is mountable on the dipper arm at a location on the dipper arm such that a connecting anchorage for connecting the clamp arm to the 15 dipper arm is located between the mounting assembly and the distal end of the dipper arm.

16. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 15 wherein when the clamp arm is in the inoperative orientation the clamp arm extends from the connecting 20 anchorage towards the mounting member.

17. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 16 wherein in the inoperative position the support stay extends from the mounting assembly towards the connecting anchorage of the clamp arm.

25

18. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein a connecting anchorage is provided on the mounting member for pivotally connecting the clamp arm to the dipper arm, the connecting anchorage being provided longitudinally spaced apart from the anchor locations.

30

19. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mounting member defines an elongated track extending parallel to the central axis for slideably carrying the anchor member between the respective anchor locations.

5 20. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mounting assembly further comprises at least one of the group consisting of a support stay and a clamp arm.

10 21. An adjustable mounting assembly as claimed in claim 20 comprising both a support stay and a clamp arm, the clamp arm for pivotal connection to the connecting anchorage and to the support stay, and the support stay for pivotal connection to the anchor member.

15 22. A dipper arm comprising the mounting assembly of claim 1 mounted on the dipper arm.

23. A hydraulically operated machine having the dipper arm of claim 22.